

Message Text

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73

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 IO-11

OMB-01 SAM-01 SAB-01 SCCT-01 SCA-01 SCSE-00 SY-05

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R 171212Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 649

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

UNCLAS TEL AVIV 1930

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, IS, JO

SUBJECT: WEST BANK DISTURBANCES

REF: JERUSALEM 368

1. ACCORDING TO GOI PRESS BULLETIN, DEFMIN PERES MET MARCH 16 WITH MAYORS OF NABLUS, BETHLEHEM AND HEBRON TO DISCUSS RECENT WEST BANK DISTURBANCES. PERES ASSURED THE MAYORS THAT THE MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS WOULD BE HELD AS SCHEDULED APRIL 12. FOLLOWING ARE THE RELEVANT PORTIONS OF THE OFFICIAL PRESS RELEASE.

2. BEGIN TEXT: DEFENCE MINISTER SHIMON PERES TODAY MET IN HIS OFFICE IN TEL AVIV WITH THE HEAD OF THE LARGE TOWNS OF JUDEA AND SAMARIA AND CALLED ON THEM TO ASSURE THAT LAW AND ORDER PREVAIL IN THEIR TOWNS. HE CAUTIONED THAT THE IDF WOULD TAKE THE REQUIRED MEASURES AND WOULD NOT HESITATE TO ACT VIGOROUSLY IN THE FACE OF ANY DISTURBANCES OF THE PUBLIC LAW
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AND ORDER. THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE POINTED OUT TO

THE TOWN MAYORS THAT THE AUTHORITIES ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR PEACE AND QUIET, AND THAT THEY WILL USE THIS AUTHORITY UNHESITATINGLY,WHILST IT IS THE TASK OF THE TOWN MAYORS TO REPRESENT THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE RESIDENTS AND PREVENT A DETERIORATION WHICH WILL ONLY HAVE ADVERSE EFFECTS N THEMSELVES.

3. DURING THE MORNING THE DEFENCE MINISTER MET WITH THE MAYOR OF HEBROW, SHEKH MUHAMMAD ALI AL JA'ABRI. SUBSEQUENTLY THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE RECEIVED THE MAYOR OF NABLUS, HADJ MAZOUZ EL MASRI, AND HIS DEPUTY MR. ADEL SHAK'A, AS WELL AS THE MAYOR OF BETHLEHEM, MR. ELIAS FREIJ AND HIS DEPUTY MR. HANNA NASSER.

4. THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE EXPLAINED TO THE MAHORS THAT IT IS THE MILITARY GOVERNMENT'S INTENTION TO ABIDE BY THE LAW--ACCORDING TO WHICH THE ELECTIONS FOR LOCAL COUNCILS SCHEDULED FOR NEXT MONTH WILL BE HELD, WITH THE REPRESENTATIVES ELECTED REPRESENTING THE GENUINE VIEW OF THE RESIDENTS. THE MINISTER STRESSED THAT THE CONDUCT OF THEIR OWN LOCAL COUNCILS AND THE ELECTIONS TO THE NEW COUNCILS WAS THE AFFAIR OF THE RESIDENTS THEMSELVES, WHILST THE MILITARY GOVERNMENT, FOR ITS PART WOULD EXTEND THE ASSISTANCE REQUIRED TO ENSURE THE EXISTENCE AND REGULAR FUNCTIONING OF THE COUNCILS END TEXT.
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